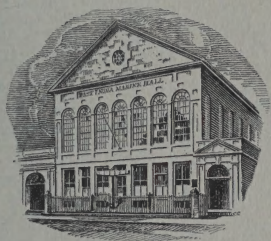


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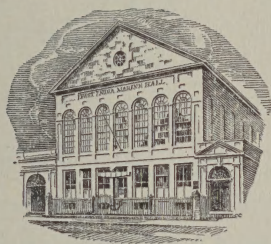
Peabody Museum of Salem



Report of the Director

1959

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1959

Salem, 4 January 1960

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY MUSEUM OF SALEM:

IN my last annual report it was announced that plans were being made for the construction of the Phillips Library and the Saltonstall Reading Room connected with it. Developments came quickly after the first of the year and final plans were approved by the Building Committee on April 14. Shortly thereafter specifications were drawn up, the plans were sent out for bids in May, and the successful bidder, Connolly Brothers of Beverly, began excavating for the foundation June 8. The building rose rapidly during the summer. No delay was caused by the steel strike for the architects and contractors had with foresight promptly placed the order for structural steel as soon as the contract was let. Before cold weather arrived the building, built of the same red brick from Epping, New Hampshire as the Crowninshield wing, was closed in. A delay of about a month occurred when the delivery of the steel flooring for the stacks was held up, but by the end of the year only finished carpentry work, painting and tile laying remained before the building's completion. This commodious and handsome addition will cost in excess of \$210,000 of which \$153,882.13 has been given up to the year's end.

Any work of this magnitude involving cutting five new doorways between the new wing and our old buildings, the entire renovation and reconstruction of the back hall with large areas of new plaster, electrical work and extensive plumbing alterations involved, as well as the pulling down of old partitions and the erection of new ones, could not of necessity avoid disrupting normal activities. From the first of September all meetings of classes and clubs at the Museum, special exhibitions and other activities, with the exception of our annual Fellows and Friends meeting, had to be canceled or suspended. At times the noise of electric drills and other machinery created constant

bedlam and the brick and plaster dust sifted throughout the office, the Natural History Rooms, and East and Weld Halls. All of this was endured by our staff, volunteers, and visitors with the greatest understanding and good humor, for all know the resulting additions and changes will be so convenient, spacious and, in truth, necessary, that we await with impatience the day when we can start moving in.

Scarcely had the ink dried on the contract for the Library wing than other things began happening in dizzying succession. When plans for the Library were originally being developed it had been hoped that a passenger and freight elevator could be installed. Unfortunately, there was no workable way this could be done, although a small electric book lift was provided between stack floors. Realizing that this was one of our greatest needs, Mr. and Mrs. Thorvald S. Ross very generously offered to contribute a substantial part of the cost of an elevator, and to help us raise the funds to complete it. Their first generous contribution was followed by gifts from several others for the purpose and we now have \$8,478.76 towards the elevator and shaft to house it. The total estimated cost is \$39,000.

Hardly had we learned the glad news about the start of the elevator fund, than Mr. Henry B. du Pont of Wilmington offered us the funds for a combination gallery and meeting room in memory of Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield. We already had plans for such a room and the Trustees voted to accept with grateful thanks Mr. du Pont's generous offer to build the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Memorial Room.

I have previously mentioned from time to time the fact that our ancient boilers would have to be renewed within a few seasons. They are over fifty-five years old and running on borrowed time. From the location of the proposed Memorial Room and the elevator it was obvious that the proper time to renew the boilers was as part of the same construction project. Upon investigation and after considerable deliberation, it was also decided that it would be far better, in view of our long-range plans, if the boiler room was constructed as a separate building outside the walls of the Museum. The danger from fire would

be lessened and noise and dirt from the heating plant would be eliminated. This decision, however, will make the cost of the new heating plant approximately \$60,000 rather than \$45,000; a very large capital expense. Our architects, Bourne and Nichols, have been instructed to proceed with plans for the room, the elevator, and the new heating plant. Funds for the room are in hand; funds for the elevator are being raised; but there are no other gifts so far towards the heating plant. Nevertheless, in view of construction costs and in fairness to our generous donors we hope to complete plans and begin construction on these projects shortly after our boilers are shut down in the spring.

The swiftness with which all of these very desirable facilities have come along in the past two years is almost beyond our comprehension. They have been needed for a long time, but it exceeds our fondest dreams that we should have adequate bookstacks, a gracious Reading Room, attractive office space, increased storage space, an elevator, meeting room and gallery, and a new heating plant, all within the space of two years. It will mean that our physical plant will be more in keeping with our needs than it has ever been before. All of this, however, raises other and most pressing problems.

These very substantial additions to our plant will inevitably mean higher maintenance costs; fuel and light bills will be larger; janitorial costs will increase; and all this in the face of the choking inflation that is already squeezing our income. I shall mention shortly the substantial addition to our endowment and other many generous gifts we have received this year. It is obvious, however, that they will not be sufficient to meet our growing expenses. Besides the increasing and additional overhead costs I have mentioned, the greatest single one which must be faced is that of salaries. The inflation of the times means that salaries and wages must go up. For 1959 our total salaries and wages were in the vicinity of \$49,000. These will be increased some in 1960, but even with the largest increases that could possibly be borne with our present income, they will fall far short of what they ought to be. Recently one of our Trus-

tees made an investigation and set up a salary schedule comparable to that of colleges, libraries and museums with adequate financing, as well as, in some cases, where the jobs were comparable with business wages. Based on this schedule our present staff's total wages and salaries should be in the neighborhood of \$57,000; some \$8,000 more than paid in 1959. This is as of the present economy. Besides this we could easily use at least four more employees. The total of additional salaries, plus the increase that should be given the present staff equals the income of another \$600,000 minimum over and beyond our present endowment including the receipts of 1959. The Museum has never had a retirement program because it has never been able to afford one. It would require the income of another \$200,000. If we include better support for publications, increased services and a little margin we should ideally have another million dollars endowment at the present time. This is a serious problem for it is a very large sum of money. Nevertheless, it is a problem that should be met and solved.

The decade of the 1950's saw the most increased demands upon Museum resources that has ever been known. This phenomenon is true throughout the country. One senses that the public suddenly realized that our Museums are the repositories of information and knowledge of a kind not available in our schools, colleges, or elsewhere. This sort of awakening has a chain reaction. Demands will further increase and will be amplified by greater leisure, education, and the population explosion. While technically it is possible for an institution of our kind to reduce the number of employees, even to close its doors if necessary, it is for all practical purposes an academic point for it would be neither sensible nor desirable. Rather, the facilities and staff, as well as the buildings and collections, should continue a healthy growth along with our country. Such growth can only be continued by sufficient sums of money to make it possible and to keep up with the inflation. As the dollar is devalued, many more of them are needed.

Added to the general circumstances affecting all museums there are always the special situations relevant to each institu-

tion. We have ours at Peabody. Like all great cities metropolitan Boston is expanding at a fantastic rate. This Museum is well within that metropolitan area and the demands made upon us reflect the situation. Bus loads of children from Boston and the suburban communities come to us on special visits. Every college and university in greater Boston sends both undergraduates and graduate students to us for information and assistance. Why should this be, especially in view of the multiplicity of cultural institutions in the metropolitan area? Because we are the only institution in the area that serves certain specific needs.

No part of the country has a maritime history as long, as varied, and as nationally important as New England. Boston is the heart of New England and we are the only Museum of maritime history in that heart. Our collections in this field are vast and choice. They could not be duplicated. As the earth shrinks from the awesome grandeur of a planet to the intimate coziness of a tennis ball, other nations, other peoples, heretofore remote tribes become more than names—they become realities. Problems arise that can only be solved by deeper knowledge of the history and culture of other places and peoples; a more sympathetic appreciation of their customs, their thought processes, their art; and a clear-eyed objective comprehension of their family, social, and political structures. It is, I think, an awareness of this, albeit mostly unconscious, that causes more people to ask for our ethnology halls and linger there and that brings ever more students to study the collections in our workroom and basement. Our ethnological collections are notable and some of them are unsurpassed. Their presentation is for the general public and not primarily as a teaching aid for students. Our resources for the study of the peoples of the Pacific and the discovery, exploration and history of that immense, increasingly important region, are second to none on the continent. The late Thomas Barbour remarked that the natural history collections for Essex County were the most complete to be found in the country for any similar area. No other museum in greater Boston presents such a related diversity of similar material for

the intelligent layman free of charge. We are not restricted in our appeal to children, students, or any other special groups of any kind. We welcome them all. Every visitor finds something of interest in our galleries, and every serious inquiring person, student or scholar, teacher or dilettante, has our storage collections made available to him and the assistance of our staff.

The fact that the Salem Peabody fills an unduplicated place in the cultural resources of the region, that in certain fields our holdings are of national and international consequence, and that all are preserved and made available for the greatest common good is willy nilly shaping the destiny of the place. It has meant a raising of sights. Few now think of us as a small provincial Museum. The local scene is cared for as well as ever, but our principal focus and support daily becomes wider and more cosmopolitan. This process creates growing pains, stretching buildings and minds. Neither ever returns to its former dimensions.

In spite of all of our good fortune, the situation just outlined may seem like a discouraging picture. I do not find it so. The very fact that people have realized our needs and responded to them with the utmost generosity, helping provide the additions I have already mentioned, indicates to me that others equally generous will see that these additions and our great collections will be sufficiently provided for. And that a staff of adequate size, quality, and competence will be provided to maintain those buildings and collections, making them available for both children and adults, laymen and scholars, and always for the common good. And further that the individual members of the staff may live modestly but in dignity.

In view of the remarks I have just made, it will come as no surprise that this has been the most expensive year in our history. Paradoxically it is also the year when our bequests and gifts have been the greatest ever. Our operating expenses show a deficit of \$8,763.78; more than double that of 1958.

The endowment fund was substantially increased this year by the receipt of \$350,000; the second payment under the bequest of William Crowninshield Endicott, Jr. This is the larg-

est single addition to our funds ever received in the history of the Museum. It will, however, probably be necessary to use some of this money to complete our new construction and build the new heating plant. The Richard Wheatland Fund was increased by gifts from Dr. and Mrs. Franc Ingraham, Mrs. Frederic M. Richards, and other members of the Wheatland family.

Mr. Stephen Phillips and Mrs. Richard M. Saltonstall gave generously for the Library Building Fund and for this and the back hall alterations there were other gifts from Mr. Paul O. Blanchette, Mrs. John F. Fulton, Mr. Russell W. Knight, Mrs. Samuel H. Ordway, Mrs. Richard Wheatland, and others. Mr. Blanchette, Miss Irene Caproni, Mr. Alfred E. Chase, Mr. Lawrence W. Jenkins, Mr. Augustus P. Loring, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Pratt, and Mrs. Russell Robb added to the Rosses' Elevator Fund. When our books are moved into the new Library the present stack room will be converted into a print and painting room. Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Lothrop have contributed towards this project, as well as for other things, and there have been two handsome anonymous gifts for the same purpose.

Our membership subscriptions from Fellows and Friends totaled \$9,717.25; about \$300 less than the previous year. This is only the second year in a decade when subscriptions have not increased. The number of our Fellows and Friends increased but we lost several substantial givers through death, which more than offset our gains. In addition to the above contributions we have received generous gifts from the following people for particular purposes: Mrs. Alfred Bissell for the restoration of the billethead of the *Constitution*; Mr. Frederick J. Bradlee for the purchase of Crowninshield pictures, sketch-books, and other memorabilia; Mrs. M. V. Brewington for the maritime history publication fund; Miss Dorothy Addams Brown for the Natural History Sound Exhibit; Mrs. Arthur W. Butler for the publication of the Crowninshield catalogue; Mr. Ralph Lawson for general purposes and for the Natural History Sound Exhibit; Mr. Alfred L. Loomis for the Polyne-

sian Research Fund; Mrs. Francis B. Lothrop for a reserve; Mr. Irving S. Olds for publications; Mr. Richard C. Paine for the purchase of library equipment and furnishings; Mrs. Chandler Robbins II for the Natural History Sound Exhibit; Dr. Douglas H. Robinson for the restoration of ship plans; Mrs. W. H. Robinson, Jr., for the Natural History Sound Exhibit; Mr. George C. Seybolt for the painting restoration fund and the marine department; Mr. Landon K. Thorne for the Polynesian Research Fund; Mr. Stephen Wheatland for general purposes and the purchase of additions to our collections; and Mr. David P. Wheatland for the Richard Wheatland Fund. The following people and organizations also made gifts for general purposes: The Edward Devotion School of Brookline; Salem East India Marine Society; the Essex County Ornithological Club; Mr. and Mrs. Donald T. Hood; Mrs. John Frederick Hussey; Marsh and McLennan; Mr. Seth Nichols; Mrs. George S. Parker; Mr. Alfred P. Putnam; Salem Marine Society; Mr. Charles H. Taylor; Mr. Walter M. Whitehill; Mrs. Raymond S. Wilkins; The Honorable Raymond S. Wilkins; and Mr. Oliver Wolcott. Our contribution box yielded \$819.47. Altogether, our total gifts for all special and general purposes amounted to \$157,894.90.

The annual gathering of our Fellows and Friends on September 18 was one of the most enthusiastic and best attended that we have had. Mr. and Mrs. David P. Wheatland entertained the Fellows and Trustees at their home in Topsfield and this was followed by the meeting in East India Marine Hall where Mr. Irving S. Olds gave a superb lecture on his collection of American Naval prints. This was followed by refreshments and an opportunity to view the collection which was hung in Robinson Hall and the Loring Room.

Out attendance this year was 48,608, about the same as it has been for the past three years. June, with 6,835 visitors, was our largest month. There were 291 groups including school classes. Among them twenty-six students from St. Paul University, Tokyo, Japan; a party of fifty Thailand educators attending Indiana University; delegates to the Eastern College

Convention in Swampscott; a Boy Scout troop from Ottawa; and the Harvard University twenty-fifth and fortieth reunion classes.

Our most ambitious special exhibition of the year was that of the Olds collection of American Naval prints already mentioned in connection with our annual meeting. Two hundred and three prints and paintings, the cream of Mr. Olds unsurpassed collection, were shown. This is the first time that such a large selection of his collection has ever been on public view. He also provided us with a catalogue and made it possible for us to get out this handsome publication in connection with the exhibition which began July 1 and lasted until October 1. Beyond all question, this is the most distinguished exhibition ever held in the Peabody Museum and we are deeply grateful to Mr. Olds for his interest and generosity in making the exhibition and the printed catalogue of it possible.

As the year opened a special exhibition of the Chinese collection presented by Mr. A. W. Bahr was held in the Loring Room with a special evening opening for our members at which Mr. Chiang Yee, "The Silent Traveller," gave a very amusing talk. The Chinese exhibition was followed in May and June by one on the Salem Fiji trade.

A permanent exhibition of "The Six Zones of Seashore Life" was completed in our Natural History Gallery. Miss Snyder and Mrs. Chandler Robbins II spent hours building rocks and tide pools and gluing on the algae, barnacles and mollusks; a tedious, time-consuming undertaking which the results well justify. After the completion of the seashore exhibit a committee consisting of Mr. Ralph Lawson, Mrs. Robbins and Miss Snyder made plans to renovate the ever popular sound exhibit, and at the end of the year this project was virtually completed. Generous financial gifts made possible a new sound machine and a ten by six-foot-six Fiberglas shell, but the speed with which it was completed was very materially due to the skill and workmanship of our new Superintendent of Buildings, Mr. William A. Robertson, who installed the shell and painted the artistic background. The exhibit shows a view of the Lynnfield

marshes (Plate 1) and the birds that live there. The scene shown has been a favorite spot for bird watchers for many years. Mr. Robertson's ingenuity was again very much appreciated when we did over six cases in East Hall to show some of our finest specimens of Melanesian wood carving and masks. Three special exhibits were shown in the entrance corridor case. These were a collection of hourglasses and other instruments lent by Mr. Albert Ryder of Hamilton; a most attractive display showing the variations in color and ray patterns of sea scallops arranged and lent by Colonel Eugene S. Clark, Jr.; and, lastly, two very rare Tibetan necromancers' aprons and other regalia made of carved human bone.

Two publications were issued this year. Mrs. Arthur W. Butler made possible, in memory of Louise du Pont Crowninshield, 1877-1958, and Francis Boardman Crowninshield, 1869-1950, the *George Crowninshield's Yacht Cleopatra's Barge* and *A Catalogue of the Francis B. Crowninshield Gallery*. The foreword and essay were written by Walter Muir Whitehill and the catalogue was a coöperative undertaking, on which several members of the staff were aided by Mrs. Yves H. Buhler of the Museum of Fine Arts, Miss Huldah Smith of the Essex Institute, and Mr. J. Sanger Attwill, who generously gave their time. I can do no better than quote Mr. Whitehill's foreword in which he says, "The Trustees of the Peabody Museum of Salem and all of us who have worked together in the preparation of this volume are grateful to Mrs. Butler for having inspired and made possible this tribute to two valued friends whose memory will always be held in affection." I have already mentioned the *Catalogue of a Special Exhibition of the Irving S. Olds Collection of American Naval Prints and Paintings*. Besides these two publications we issued full-sized reproductions of the water color of the ship *Bowditch* and of our rare Abel Bowen print of the United States Frigate *Constitution*. I continued editing *The American Neptune* while Priscilla Papin, as in past years, carried on all of the subscriptions and business of the journal. M. V. Brewington has arranged the pictorial supplements and C. H. P. Copeland compiled the index.

Our accessions this year continued in the same extraordinary number as has been customary in the past decade, and the quality remained at a gratifyingly high level. Of these 128 were Maritime, 53 Ethnology, 27 Natural History, and 116 Library. Just as each coin has two sides, so the inflation which creates financial problems also creates conditions that bring forth the extraordinary amount of good material now appearing on the market and stimulates gifts of things to the Museum which we would not otherwise receive.

The Marine accessions included 27 oil paintings, 24 water colors, 89 prints, 2,134 photographs, 262 negatives, 14 scientific instruments, 3 pieces of scrimshaw, 3 ship models, 4 flags and 17 miscellaneous items.

It can very safely be said that our collection of pictorial maritime material, paintings, prints, etc., is the most comprehensive in the country. It was increased by many distinguished additions this year. Among the finest is an oil painting (Plate 2) of the American clipper ship *Hurricane* by Skillett, given us by two of our Trustees. Paintings of American clipper ships are scarce and this is one of the best. Mr. William B. Osgood gave an oil painting of Eastern Point Lighthouse, Gloucester Harbor, done by Clement Drew in 1888, and a painting of the steamboat *Sea Gull* by the same artist was given us by Mr. Francis Lee Higginson, Jr. Mr. Higginson, incidentally, has been collecting constantly the past year and besides giving us this painting and eighteen Currier and Ives prints of steamships, he has deposited many other prints, water colors and oils, including five Antonio Jacobsen paintings, and some beautiful aquatints and lithographs of transatlantic steamers. We also received a handsome little oil painting of an American bark by the English artist, Samuel Walters, and the Misses Eleanor and Elizabeth Broadhead presented among other things two oil paintings, one of a ship off Minot's Light, another of the ship *Paul Jones*, and a silhouette of Captain Nehemiah Adams. We were fortunately able to purchase a rather well-known oil painting by T. Pitman of a collision at sea between the ship *Tejuca* commanded by Captain William D. Gregory of Marblehead, and another vessel.

Two of the outstanding accessions this year were made possible by funds contributed from our Fellows and Friends. The most important and one of the most exciting lots of material that we have ever received was the maritime manuscripts of the eighteenth-century French Naval architect Henri Louis Duhamel du Monceau. It consists of a number of water colors, ship's lines, harbor views, construction plans, besides over twenty-five folders of manuscript relating to naval architecture, harbor installations, nautical instruments and details of ship construction (Plate 3). Duhamel du Monceau was born in Paris sometime in 1700. With the precocity of the well-educated Frenchman of his time, by the age of twenty-eight he was a member of the Academie des Sciences and soon thereafter was appointed Inspecteur General de la Marine, a position in the French naval service combining most of the functions of our present day Bureau of Ships and Bureau of Yards and Docks, with a part of the Bureau of Ordnance, Naval Observatory and Hydrographic Office thrown in. Du Monceau approved the plans for vessels, Navy yards, guns; he supervised the feeding of the seamen; he oversaw the procurement of timber, sail cloth, cordage, figureheads, and hundreds of other things for both the galley fleets of the Mediterranean and the sailing vessels of Atlantic France. In his spare time he wrote and published beautifully illustrated learned works on botany, marine biology, husbandry, rope making, and naval architecture. After a long and productive life, spanning France's greatest day, du Monceau died at Paris, August 23, 1782.

The other collection made possible by our Fellows and Friends consists of 195 wash drawings of ships by a French artist, E. Everard. These drawings are grouped in five folios and were done for a pictorial history of shipbuilding up to about 1860, by Admiral Paris of the French Navy.

Dr. Harold Bowditch, who gave us an important collection of nautical instruments once owned by his illustrious ancestor, Nathaniel, this year presented two water colors, one of the house on Wilson Square, Peabody, in which Nathaniel lived, and the other of the first school attended by Nathaniel Bowditch

in Peabody. One of the handsomest Antoine Roux water colors we have ever seen, that was given to us, depicts an engagement between the British and French fleets in Algeciras Bay, 1801. Another perfectly stunning water color of a French ship in Havre by Frederic Roux, 1863, was purchased. Mr. Francis B. Lothrop, along with many other prints and material, gave a water color sketch of the ship *Herald*, 1828. We also received the gift of a pair of water colors of the brig *Thomas* of London, William Wright commander, painted by Andre Moretii in Genoa, 1817. Our constantly growing collection relating to Captain James Cook was enriched by Mr. Stephen Phillips who presented a wash drawing of the great navigator.

Among the many prints received was a small hitherto unknown picture of the privateer *La Princesse Noire*, commissioned by Benjamin Franklin, done in 1791, given by Mrs. E. Sturgis Hinds of Manchester.

The most important additions to our photograph collection were 141 old glass negatives of shipbuilding in Essex, Massachusetts at the Story and James and Oxner yards from Mr. Dana Story of Essex. Their use is restricted until they are released by the donor or until his book on Essex shipbuilding is published. Mr. Arthur D. Fay of Nahant gave approximately 400 photographs to add to the rapidly growing steamship file, and another 123 prints of the important Verkin collection, together with 68 additional negatives, were sent in by Eric Steinfeldt of San Antonio, Texas. We also purchased two cartons of miscellaneous photographs which came from the estate of the well-known marine artist, Charles G. Patterson.

Among the fourteen instruments were a portable orrery with a book on its description and use by William Jones, London, 1812. The orrery itself was made by W. and S. Jones, London, 1799, and is the gift of Mr. George Loring. A fine set of drawing instruments which belonged to Captain William McKibbin of the ships *Dorothea* and *Phoenix* were presented by his grandson, Mr. David McKibbin. Captain McKibbin who sailed from Philadelphia to Macao, China died of cholera in Liverpool in 1844. We also acquired a lovely little sixteenth-century

French silver ring dial and an English lodestone in a brass mounting.

An outstanding lot of Crowninshield material was given us in memory of Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield by Mr. Francis B. Lothrop and Mr. Frederick J. Bradlee. It includes among many other things a powder horn and a slate log which belonged to John Crowninshield, a large mahogany paint box of Hannah Crowninshield's, and a portrait by J. Greenleaf Cole of Newburyport of James Armstrong who married Hannah. Mr. Henry F. Damon gave a spyglass and other material which once belonged to Captain Nathan Nichol, and Miss Charlotte Austin Kent presented an elaborate carved teak cabinet from India brought home by the father of the Cape Cod Captain, Sparrow Hurd. Mrs. John Briggs gave several pictures and prints and a large carved oak English chest, and Mrs. Arthur Willis, Sr., presented in memory of her husband, a three and a half-foot model of a Viking ship which they acquired in Norway in 1924.

Among the 342 new specimens which came into the Ethnology Department during the year, 98 were from India, 66 from Japan, 65 from China, 65 from Polynesia, 42 from Europe, 20 from North America, 10 from Africa, 15 from Central America, 9 from Melanesia, and the remainder from scattered areas.

Mrs. Walter Austin of Dedham, who gave us a fine lot of Hawaiian material last year, this year contributed many Japanese and Chinese articles, and also a handsome Sheraton sofa which we plan to use as a piece of furniture in the new Library. The rarest Oriental item acquired was a Tibetan necromancer's regalia (Plate 4) consisting of an apron, hat and arm band, all made of elaborately carved human bone mounted on red cloth. These are excessively rare, even in Tibet, and little is known of them except that it is believed that they are used only by the black hat sect of Lamas. We have another of the aprons acquired a few years ago, but the carving is in very different style from the new one. A large collection of exquisite ivory carvings, mostly from Japan, China, and India, was given us by Mrs. Paul R. Bullard of Lexington, and they are now on exhibition

in East Hall where they have been arranged by Abigail Wyman. This collection made by Mr. and Mrs. Bullard over a period of many years further enriches our already striking holdings in this field. Two of our primary interests were linked by a gift from Mr. Arthur Sewall in the form of an extraordinarily large Japanese red, black and gold lacquer covered wooden dish which was presented by the Emperor of Japan to the King of the Hawaiian Islands. An important collection of about twenty Japanese and Chinese vases, lacquer work and porcelains was given by Mrs. E. Sturgis Hinds. Miss Alice Paine presented twenty-four paintings on mica from India and a Chinese painting on glass, among other things which were brought back from the Far East by members of her family, and Mrs. Langdon Pearse gave a Chinese artist's paint box. Last year it will be remembered, our friend Mr. A. W. Bahr of Ridgefield, Connecticut, gave a distinguished collection of Oriental material. This year his daughter added to that collection a Ming dynasty painting by Chu-Yien, showing the presentation of the powerful Houh dog to the Emperor, and the Bahr's friend, Mrs. Baxter Hornby, gave a beggar's bell from Japan and a flint and steel from China to be added to the Bahr collection. An extraordinary and rare type of Japanese weapon, a lacquered pepper blower with a container for carrying the pepper, was purchased. When attacked one apparently blew the pepper in the assailant's face.

The largest lot of material from the South Seas consists of 54 modern specimens of the material culture of Mangaia in the Cook Islands and 36 samples of wood from those islands collected by Dr. Donald S. Marshall on his expedition of 1957-1958. A carved canoe prow and an elaborate tridachna and tortoise shell breast ornament from the Solomon Islands along with several other unusually good pieces, were purchased for us by a friend from a New York dealer. A very fine old carved New Zealand Maori feather box dating before 1830 was purchased from the income of the Stephen W. Phillips Fund. Two extremely interesting prints with South Seas associations were given us. The first from Charles H. Taylor is a colored print of

a native of Kamchatka with a sledge from a painting by John Webber, the artist, on Cook's third voyage. The other is a rare print showing the King and Queen of the Hawaiian Islands and their suite on their visit to England, given by Stephen Phillips.

The only important additions to our American Indian collections were two well preserved and decorated ash splint baskets from the Penobscot Indians presented by Mr. and Mrs. Willard C. Cousins who have done so much to build up our Indian material. They also gave us a striking Eskimo slate carving of a porpoise. Mr. Lawrence W. Jenkins brought in a Navajo belt which he collected before 1910.

Material of historical significance included a silver belt buckle and gold spurs along with a serape which were said to have been taken from the body of the Mexican General Santa Anna, given us by Mrs. Matthew Lahti. Our friend, Gilbert R. Payson, among other things presented an extraordinarily well engraved powder horn which belonged to Benjamin Burton, 1778, and Mrs. John Briggs gave two silver and brass mounted pistols from the Near East.

Additions to the Natural History collections were very small this year and of the twenty-seven accessions, four were mammals and practically all of the others were birds. Miss Dorothy Snyder made up twenty-eight skins for our study collection from birds brought in and four birds were mounted for exhibition. The important additions were the first Prothonotary Warbler specimen for the county (there are only eight for the state) given by Mrs. Chandler Robbins II, and the first Blue-winged Warbler from Essex County (there are only three state specimens) given by Mr. H. F. Priest of Manchester. We had only one specimen of a Brant and Mr. Richard Barnett has added another. From Mr. Oscar Root we obtained a rare inland specimen of Iceland Gull taken on Lake Cochichewick, North Andover.

The construction of our new bookstack has doubtless stimulated gifts to the Library for they have been large and in several instances, significant. Of the 644 books received only 94 were purchased and all but six of the 28 lots of manuscripts were gifts.

Among the manuscripts we have already mentioned the papers of Duhamel du Monceau. For sheer bulk, nothing topped the tree tons of business records of Commerical, Long, Lewis, and T Wharves given us by James E. Bagley, Jr., through the interest of our energetic Fellow, Mr. Ebenezer Gay. Following close on this was a gift of nineteen more volumes of the Snow Shipyard papers of Rockland, Maine, from Mr. Wendell S. Hadlock. There were twenty-two log books and journals, an unusual number, of which eleven were the gift of Mr. Andrew Oliver. His gift included several logs of early nineteenth-century British naval vessels, but there was also a journal of the U.S.S. *Port Royal* kept by the Master's mate during the Civil War while she was on blockade duty, and a log of the U.S.S. *Peacock* from September through November 1829, bound together with logs of the U.S.S. *Falmouth* and U.S.S. *Macedonian*. There is another of U.S.S. *Concord* under Commodore Matthew C. Perry, and one of the ship *Merchant* of Boston kept on a voyage from Liverpool to Batavia and thence to Canton and New York. Another important Civil War item was a two-volume diary kept on board the U.S.S. *Constitution* by C. Babbidge of Salem in 1862, given by Lawrence W. Jenkins. Joseph E. Full contributed a log of the whaling bark *Ann Parry* on a cruise to the Indian Ocean in 1845, and Mr. Orlando Merchant of Manchester presented an account book of Gloucester fishing vessels running from 1878 to 1900, which belonged to his grandfather of the same name who was the sole owner of William H. Jordan Company. Probably the most important single log was in the gift of Messrs. Lothrop and Bradlee in memory of Mrs. Crowninshield. This is a log book of several of the Crowninshield family ships kept by Benjamin Crowninshield and running from 1788 to 1804. In the same collection is a manuscript of sailing directions, a rather important diary of a trip to Niagara Falls in 1827, and a station book of the U.S.S. *St. Mary's*. Another station book of the U.S.S. *Wabash* was given us by the Middleton Historical Society. Dr. Harold Bowditch gave three bound volumes of ephemeral material and three loose-leaf albums of letters, photostats, and photographs, which

he has accumulated over a long period of years relating to the great navigator, Nathaniel Bowditch.

Mr. Stephen Phillips continued adding many handsome and rare volumes to our collections relating to the South Seas and Captain Cook. Among them are two of the largest and most important of the French works. The first, given jointly with Francis B. Lothrop, is a complete, large edition of Dumont d'Urville's *Voyage autour du monde sur L'Astrolabe* in twenty-six volumes of text and six large folios of plates and one of charts, published in 1830-1835. The other is the almost equally large and rare *Voyage au Pole Sud et dans l'Océanie sur les Corvettes l'Astrolabe et la Zélée*, also by Dumont d'Urville and published 1837-1840. Another third important item is *The North American Pilot for Newfoundland, Labrador, the Gulf and River St. Laurence* by James Cook and Michael Lane, London 1777. This is the famous surveying work on which Captain Cook made his reputation resulting in his selection to command the famous voyages to the Pacific. A year ago it was announced in the annual report that Mr. Phillips had given us the rare book by David Samwell on the death of Captain Cook. This year he added a unique French edition of the work entitled *Détails Nouveaux et circonstances sur la Mort du Capitaine Cook*, 1786. Among many other notable books is the four-volume *Narrations D'Omai* by Abbe G. A. R. Baston, Paris 1790, and a Swiss edition of Cook's voyages. Mrs. James W. Totten gave us in memory of her mother, Beatrice Ayer Patton, Mrs. Patton's books relating to the Hawaiian Islands consisting of 141 volumes plus ten years of Thrum's *Hawaiian Annual*. Our good friend, Mr. R. A. Derrick, Curator of the Fiji Museum in Suva, sent us the scarce first three numbers of the *Transactions of the Fiji Society* and his own two volumes on the History and Geography of Fiji. Francis B. Lothrop added several rare items, including the Natural History of Norway which has a wonderful account of the sea serpent by the Right Reverend Erich Pontoppidan, Bishop of Bergen, London, 1755, and five other books and pamphlets relating to sea serpents, along with numerous other works. The Salem Savings Bank gave us

a case containing thirty-two atlases of Essex County and Boston, which will be a useful addition to our reference room. Mr. Ernest S. Tappan presented forty books on ethnological and maritime subjects and the Nordberg Manufacturing Company, through Mr. John G. Earle, gave us nine volumes of Lloyd's Registers.

Other gifts included three chairs and a tilt top table from Mr. G. Peabody Gardner which will be useful furniture for the Library. We are also grateful to Mr. E. Harold Hugo, Meriden Gravure Company for contributing the plates in this report.

In January the Museum was honored by the United States Navy upon the publication of the seventieth edition of Nathaniel Bowditch's *American Practical Navigator*. Copies of the new edition were presented January 15 in East India Marine Hall to our President, Mr. Stephen Wheatland and to Dr. Harold Bowditch, great-grandson of the navigator, representing the family, by Rear Admiral Carl F. Espe, Commandant of the First Naval District. The seventieth edition is the greatest single revision that has ever been done to the famous book, and we had considerable satisfaction in being able to provide the Hydrographic Office with many of the illustrations.

There were many distinguished visitors and scholars at the Museum during the past year. Through the thoughtful kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Thorvald S. Ross, Mr. R. A. Derrick, Curator of the Fiji Museum in Suva, was able to spend two weeks here at the Museum studying our Fijian collections. He was well known to us for he had shown equal kindness to the Rosses, to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Phillips, to me and my family, and to Dr. Donald S. Marshall during the occasions when we were in Suva. Mr. Derrick was especially pleased to be able to read the many logs, journals and letters in our collections relating to the Fiji Islands, as well as to see the material brought back by the early nineteenth-century Salem sea captains. He lived with the Rosses while here, gave a lecture for the Fellows and Friends which was very largely attended, and was treated to a real New England clambake by our Trustee,

Mr. A. P. Loring, and was honored by a dinner at the Rosses home in Manchester. Mr. Derrick's visit was mutually beneficial for we learned a great deal about our own collections from him and we were all sorry to see him leave. Salem's world-wide contacts of the nineteenth century were also emphasized by a visit from Mr. Edward Rodwell of Mombasa, British East Africa, who spent a week in the Museum studying the manuscript material relating to Zanzibar and Salem's trade with the east coast of Africa. Most of the U. S. consuls in Zanzibar in the early nineteenth century were Salem men and the extensive trade with that romantic port has resulted in a substantial collection here at the Museum. Another distinguished visitor was Mr. J. R. Jones of Hong Kong-Shanghai Bank and head Druid of Wales who is also the leading authority in the world on the artist, George Chinnery. Chinnery lived most of his life in China and we have a very large collection of his sketches and a number of his oil paintings. Mr. Jones spent three days studying this material before returning to Hong Kong.

While the Olds exhibition was on in August Mrs. Francis B. Lothrop was hostess to the members of the Wenham Museum, the Manchester Historical Society and the Cape Ann Historical, Scientific and Literary Society for a special evening viewing of the collection. In March Colonel Eugene S. Clark gave another of his popular courses on Animals of the Seashore, which was entirely filled very shortly after its announcement. The course consisted of four evening lectures and work sessions, followed by two field trips. In July the Newcomen Society of North America honored the East India Marine Society at Governor Dummer Academy and I gave a lecture on the history of the East India Marine Society and the founding of the Museum on that occasion.

The Museum received good publicity especially during the early part of the year when we were still active before construction started. Feature articles appeared in several newspapers including the *Providence Journal*, the *Boston Daily Globe* and the *Christian Science Monitor*, and we were mentioned editorially in several newspapers. We also gained publicity from

pictures which we supplied for various magazines, including *National Geographic*, and *American Heritage*. Particularly pleasing was a series of advertisements run by the Salem Five Cent Savings Bank in the *Salem Evening News*. These were quarter-page ads, each one showing a large photograph of one of the Museum's exhibits with a brief story about it. The series was so successful that the Five Cent Savings Bank has asked us to provide another series of pictures and stories for a future series. Loans to other institutions and organizations included a large lot of half models to Harvard University, a collection of tapa cloth to the Kendall Company, six lots of natural history material to the Massachusetts Audubon Society teachers who used them in some twenty-five schools, and natural history loans to the Museum of Fine Arts, three garden clubs and two department stores.

Miss Dorothy Snyder gave three lectures to school groups here at the Museum and Mrs. Robbins gave one. Miss Snyder also put on a two-hour instruction demonstration on the natural sciences for teachers taking the Salem Teachers College summer school program, and a lecture on birding in Essex County for the Swampscott Garden Club. Altogether I gave eleven lectures, including opening the Essex Institute lecture series and talks to groups from De Cordova Museum, Radcliffe College, Boston University, the Salem State Teachers College, the Dedham Historical Society, and participated in a symposium at a three-day meeting of the American Folklore Society in Albany, New York.

Two changes were made that make life much simpler. One will be noticed by everybody who has tried to telephone us during the last few years. Our line was so overloaded that not only did people get a busy signal constantly, sometimes reaching us after a half-dozen attempts and other times giving up in discouragement, but those of us wanting to make an outgoing call from the office often had to wait as long as an hour before we could get the call through. We now have a new telephone system with three lines. Our main electrical line into the building, badly overloaded with fuses blowing at inconvenient times,

caused no end of annoyance and was dangerous. We now have a new electrical line at a cost of some \$6,500, that is not only sufficient to serve our present needs, but will also take care of any building expansion within the foreseeable future. Additional radiation was added to the front hall for the comfort of our guards and visitors.

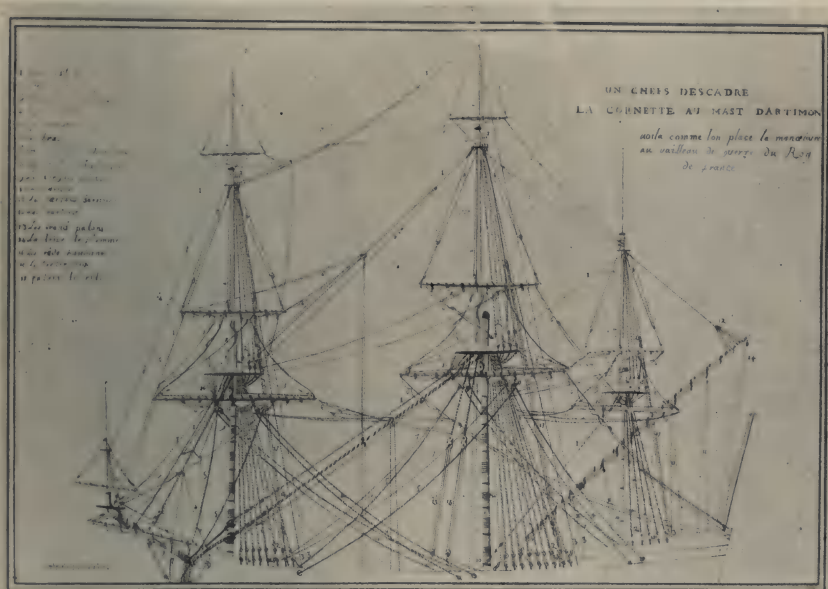
A certain amount of research was carried on even during the construction and resulting confusion. The Stimson project drew near a close when Donald S. Marshall completed the manuscript for the Stimson Tuamotu Dictionary and it was sent to the Netherlands for printing. Mr. Brewington continued his work on his dictionary of marine artists and in connection with it visited Fort Ticonderoga, Cooperstown, and other institutions in New York state. Miss Dorothy Snyder and Mrs. Robbins carried on a good deal of field work in connection with local bird study. They made three boat trips in Mrs. Robbins' *Desire II* off shore during the summer months to observe sea birds. In the spring Miss Snyder combined vacation with science by making a bird study trip to Trinidad, Tobago, Bonaire and Curacao. In addition almost every week end of the year and sometimes in mid-week a long trip was taken in the county. The most unusual birds observed this year included the Whistling Swans; eight of them being seen on one day in November. One swan was illegally shot by a poacher in December and has been given to the Museum by the conservation officer. Other noteworthy sight records were the second Tufted Duck for the state and a Short-toed Eagle of Europe (new to the North American list) which was well seen as it soared over Marblehead Neck Sanctuary. At this little sanctuary a continuous day-by-day count of birds was made by Miss Snyder and two other observers during September and October at the request of Dr. William Drury of Drumlin Farms, who wished to collate these observations with radar studies of migrants. In December Miss Snyder was responsible for the twenty-fifth annual Cape Ann Christmas count of the Audubon Society. Some of her other activities included identifying an enormous dead Basking Shark at Marblehead as well as a Hump-back Whale floating off the Lynn-Swampscott coast.



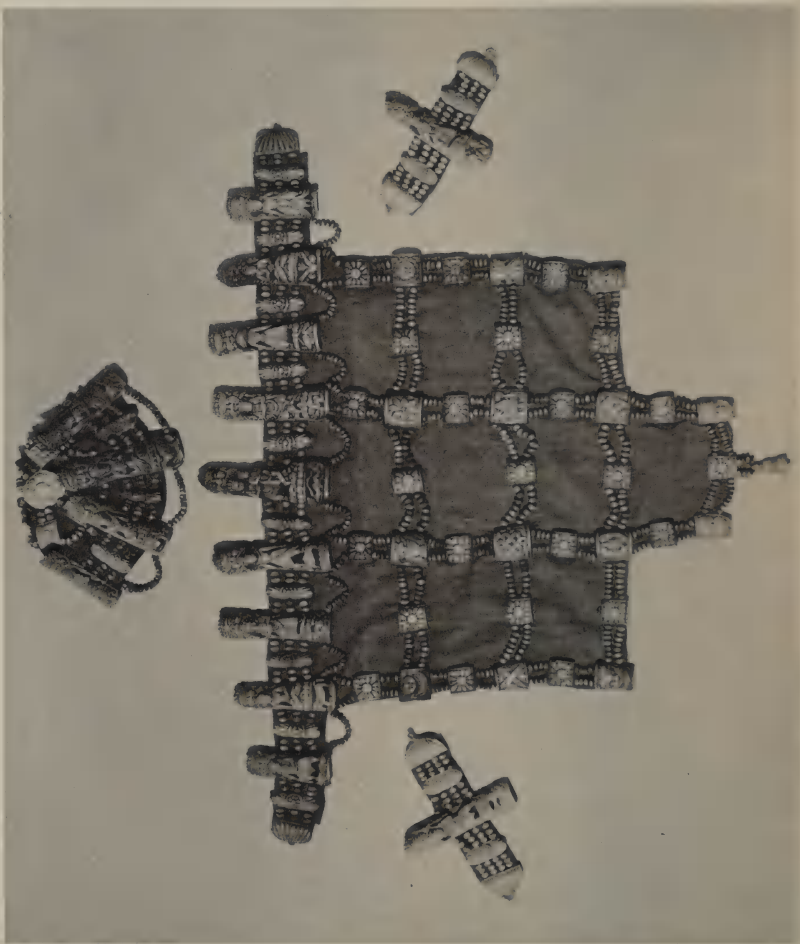
Sound exhibit: Lynnfield marsh from the railroad tracks



Oil painting of clipper ship *Hurricane*



Drawings from the papers of Jean Marie du Hamel du Monceau



Tibetan necromancer's regalia: cap, apron and wristlets

Once more this year we employed Mr. Orville Littlefield as an extra guard to fill in on our regular men's day off and for Sundays, and Miss Rebecca Dodge for the Sales Desk during the summer months. Mr. William B. Ardifff was also employed during the summer and made the most detailed catalogue that has yet been attempted of about half of our large log book collections. Dr. Norman S. Bailey continued to segregate our Essex County insect collection from the general collection and get it properly housed and had nearly completed the task by the end of the year. Mr. Richard Holman was employed one day a week to work on our prints and paintings.

Again our volunteers were invaluable and, in fact, it would have been impossible to operate the Museum and accomplish all we did without them. In the Library, Mr. Russell W. Knight continued caring for all the new manuscript material as it came in. Miss Ruth Parker and Miss Sybil Tucker also continued their regular work in the Library and they were joined by Mr. William Bushby who did volunteer work there every Monday, and Miss Ellen C. Rice who came on Fridays. Mrs. Natalie Stoddard of Middleton sorted and placed in manuscript boxes most of the collection of manuscript material obtained from the estate of E. Tappan Adney on the Malacite and other Northeastern Indians. The volunteers in Ethnology actually operate that entire department and work together as a team. Colonel Smith has continued his full-time curatorship now extending over ten years and Mr. Oliver Wolcott continued assisting him two to three days a week on the inventory work and cataloguing. Miss Mary Osgood and Mrs. Osborn Palmer who have been working a day a week in the department for at least six years, continued that assistance. They completed transferring all ethnology photographic prints from the old albums to new mounts, cross-indexed all of the photographs, and began working on the ethnology negatives. Miss Osgood was absent for many weeks due to a serious automobile accident but she continued at home making labels from data furnished by Mrs. Palmer who worked throughout the summer. We are happy to say that Miss Osgood is now with us again.

Another valuable addition to our volunteers in ethnology was Mrs. Abigail Wyman who had previously worked in the Los Angeles Museum. In addition to helping with cataloguing, she started making an inventory of our large and very important Japanese netsuke collection and assisted with exhibits. In the Maritime History Department Mr. Osgood Williams continued his work on cataloguing steamship photographs at least one day a week and he was joined in the same work by Mr. Arthur D. Fay who has been coming every Tuesday and Thursday. Mr. Francis B. Lothrop carried on the program of restoration of our prints and paintings. Mr. David Jones and Mr. Thomas G. Rice both aided us with the repair of ship models and Miss Katharine P. Clapp assisted Miss Ruth R. Ropes in work on our sailing ship photographs. Mr. Francis B. Remon repaired several instruments and clocks, including the orrery donated by Mr. George Loring. Valuable help in addressing and filling envelopes was donated by Mrs. R. Thomas B. Peirce, Jr., and Mrs. James F. St. Clair who also worked on cataloguing the Deutsch Collection of steamship negatives. In the Natural History Department Mrs. Chandler Robbins II has been invaluable. She has contributed a very large amount of time, especially in connection with new exhibits, and her enthusiasm is unbounded and an inspiration.

Our Honorary Staff and Natural History Department suffered a very severe loss this year in the death of Mr. Ludlow Griscom, Honorary Curator of Ornithology. Mr. Griscom has had a connection with this Museum for over a quarter of a century. During that period he added to our Essex County collection many of its most important specimens, including the first Eared Grebe secured in the East, the first Little Gull taken in North America, two Black-headed Gulls of Europe, a Franklin's Gull and several subspecies rare in state collections. It was due to his efforts that we were able to obtain the Charles W. Townsend Collection of Essex County birds, which included such specimens as the only Gull-billed Tern for the state, one of the last dated specimens of a Passenger Pigeon from Magnolia, and the only Chestnut-collared Longspur for Massachu-

setts. His last important contribution was as co-author with Miss Snyder of the *Birds of Massachusetts* which we published two years ago, but his vast knowledge of local birds and his wide acquaintance with those of the world were always at the disposal of the Curator and his advice and help will be sorely missed.

There have been two important additions to our staff this year. The appointment of Mr. Paul O. Blanchette as Librarian has meant that, even in the cramped and crowded quarters where he is forced to operate until the new building is completed, our Library Department is operating properly. Since he arrived January 1, he has catalogued 914 books and a total of 2,413 volumes. Thus very substantial headway has been made into the backlog of uncatalogued material. He has also reorganized the shelving, and accommodated many visiting scholars. In late June we hired Mr. William A. Robertson as our Superintendent of Buildings. He is a fine craftsman in every way and an artist in his own right. His help is invaluable in preparing cases for exhibition, painting backgrounds, hanging pictures and caring for many of our maintenance problems that formerly required outside assistance. Our regular office staff is unchanged. Miss Ruth R. Ropes continues her duties as Assistant Curator of Maritime History and presides over the photograph file and cataloguing of that department. Priscilla W. Papin has carried on her duties of Assistant Treasurer, the work of *The American Neptune* and acts as a general Administrative Assistant. When both Mr. Brewington and myself are absent she is in charge of the institution. My secretary, Mrs. Kenneth Ford and our Staff Secretary, Miss Moyra Laing, have taken many chores off my shoulders and they have both done considerable work over and beyond the normal line of duty.

This is my tenth annual report as Director of the Peabody Museum, and as I look back over the past decade I am pleased with the progress we have made, the sustained interest of our Fellows and Friends, and the competence and wisdom of our Trustees. Most of all, however, I think of our Staff for without

the small group of professionals working steadily and unobtrusively we could not have achieved most of our accomplishments in the past ten years. Individually and as a working team I am very proud of them and they have been joined by the finest people I have ever known as volunteers. Full years flow fast and so rapid runs the rushing rill of time that it seems but yesterday and not ten years ago that I wrote the first of these reports.

The decade of the 1950's has seen us emerge from a long and useful past on to the horizon of an exciting and expanding future. It is a thrilling point in our history to witness.

“Leaving the old, both worlds at once they view,
That stand upon the threshold of the new.”

ERNEST S. DODGE,
Director

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CONDENSED TREASURER'S REPORT

for the year 1959

Income from Invested Funds for Current Purposes	\$66,092.14
Gifts for Current Purposes	13,991.08
Miscellaneous Receipts	1,284.24
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	\$81,367.46
Staff Salaries, Accession of Collections and Administrative Expenses	\$62,252.08
Building Expenses—Janitors, Fuel, Insurance, Repairs	22,211.26
Treasurer's Expenses, Amortization Bond Premiums, Transfers to Special Funds	3,119.01
Allocation of Income	2,548.89
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	\$90,131.24
EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF INCOME	\$ 8,763.78

In addition to the gifts for current general purposes shown above, the Museum received \$150 for the Painting Restoration Fund, \$2,500 for the continuation of Polynesian Research Studies, \$9,717.25 from Fellows and Friends subscriptions, \$7,357.59 for the Publication Fund, and \$5,961.49 for various specific purposes. \$364,197.52 was added to our endowment funds, \$54,022.52 to the Library Building Fund, \$6,727.45 to the Print Room Fund, \$8,270 to the Elevator Fund, and \$35,000 was given for the Louise duPont Crowninshield Memorial Room.

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A large group of persons interested in promoting the work of the Museum have organized themselves as The Fellows and Friends of the Peabody Museum. These members make an annual contribution for its support: fifty dollars or more as Fellows; ten dollars or more as Friends. They receive gratis certain Museum publications, are invited to attend all functions here, and are allowed a ten per cent discount on Museum publications, china, and reproductions. An application for membership will be found below. All gifts to the Museum come within the provisions of the Federal Income Tax law as charitable donations.

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